

Meeting Minutes

Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board

Thursday, February 18, 2016, 10:00 a.m. – 1:20 p.m.

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Attendance: J.B. Guiton, Board Chair; Rep. Jeff Backer; Lisa Brodsky; Aaron Burnett, M.D.; Lisa Consie; Patrick Coyne; Steve DuChien; Scott Hable; Megan Hartigan; Jeffrey Ho, M.D.; Paula Fink-Kocken, M.D.; Kevin Miller; John Pate, M.D.; Jill Ryan Schultz; Matt Simpson; Tony Spector, Executive Director; Melody Nagy, Office Coordinator; Robert Norlen, Field Services Supervisor; Rose Olson, Licensing Administrator; Chris Popp, Compliance Supervisor; Mary Zappetillo, EMS Specialist; Greg Schaefer, Assistant Attorney General

Absent: Mark Dunaski; Michael Jordan; Mark Schoenbaum; Senator Kathy Sheran

1. Call to Order – 10:00 a.m.

Mr. Guiton called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Public Comment – 10:05 a.m.

The public comment portion of the Board meeting is where the public may address the Board on subjects which are not part of the meeting agenda. Persons wishing to speak must complete the participation form provided at the meeting room door prior to the start of the meeting. Please limit remarks to 3 minutes. The Board will listen attentively to comments but, in most instances, will not respond at the meeting. Typically, replies to issues or concerns expressed will be made via letter or phone call within a week.

None.

3. Review and Approve Board Meeting Agenda – 10:10 a.m.

Motion: Dr. Pate moved to approve the agenda for the February 18, 2016 Board meeting. Dr. Fink Kocken seconded. Motion carried.

4. Consent Agenda – 10:15 a.m.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes from November 19, 2015

Motion: Mr. Miller moved to approve the minutes from the November 19, 2015 Board meeting. Mr. Hable seconded. Motion carried.

All items listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine by the EMSRB and will be enacted by one motion and an affirmative vote by a majority of the members present. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member requests to remove an item from the consent agenda and then the item will be considered a separate subject of discussion.

5. Board Chair Report

Appointment of member to Data Policy Standing Advisory Committee

(Clif Giese retired; new member recommended by Executive Committee is Brent Custard)

Motion: Mr. Simpson moved to appoint Brent Custard to DPSAC. Rep. Backer seconded. Motion carried.

Burnsville Pilot Project

Mr. Guiton reported that Burnsville Fire Department approached the Executive Committee to discuss a pilot project being contemplated by that agency wherein it would use an alternate response vehicle (i.e., a non-transport paramedic vehicle) to low acuity calls for EMS service. This pilot project is referenced as Phase #1. While it may not specifically require Board action, the Legislative Ad-Hoc Work Group and the Medical Direction Standing Advisory Committee will be discussing the pilot project and will be bringing recommendations to the Board. Phase #2 involves using a credentialed communications center to provide a secondary screening of low acuity calls that may determine alternatives that would be more appropriate than an emergent EMS response. While this may be happening at the national level, such a program would be a change for Minnesota. It should be reviewed by EMSRB committees and the Board because it may require legislative action.

6. Post Transition Education Work Group Final Report and Recommendations

Mr. Guiton said that this was presented to the Board in November and we asked for additional public comment.

Ms. Consie provided a power point presentation and the work group final recommendations. The Board discussed the work group recommendations and asked questions for clarification of changes.

(5-minute recess) Dr. Ho arrived at 10:50 a.m.

Recommendation #1 – continued use of national Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) cognitive and psychomotor examination process for initial EMT, AEMT, & Paramedic Certification.

Motion: Mr. Hable moved to accept recommendation #1. Rep. Backer seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation #2 – Minnesota require the same recertification requirements as the NREMT for EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic or proof of a valid NREMT Certification.

Motion: Dr. Fink Kocken moved to accept recommendation #2. Ms. Ryan Schultz seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation #3 – The EMS Regulatory Board request that the NREMT designate the State of Minnesota as a NCCP State as of April 1, 2016, for EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic.

Motion: Rep. Backer moved to accept recommendation #3. Mr. Simpson seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation #4 – The EMS Regulatory Board use the NCCP model for recertification regardless of whether the NREMT designates the State of Minnesota as a NCCP state after March 31, 2016.

Motion: Mr. DuChien moved to accept recommendation #4. Mr. Coyne seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation #5 – All National Continued Competency Requirements (NCCR) components are taught by Minnesota Approved Education Programs or educators as approved by the Board.

Table recommendation #5.

~~*Recommendation #6 – The EMS Regulatory Board adopt the Mark King Initiative and adopt implementation to national certification by April 1, 2030, at which time all EMS personnel (EMT, AEMT and Paramedic) in Minnesota must have and maintain national certification.*~~

Recommendation #6a – The EMS Regulatory Board adopt the Mark King Initiative.

Recommendation #6b – The EMS Regulatory Board adopt implementation to national certification by April 1, 2036, at which time all EMS personnel in Minnesota must have and maintain national certification.

Motion: Mr. Hable moved to accept recommendation #6a. Ms. Hartigan seconded. Motion carried.

Motion: Mr. Miller moved to accept recommendation #6b. Rep. Backer seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation #7 – The EMS Regulatory Board require beginning April 1, 2016 and thereafter that all nationally certified EMS providers in Minnesota (EMT, AEMT, and paramedics) shall maintain national certification going forward.

Motion: Dr. Pate moved to accept recommendation #7. Dr. Ho seconded. Motion carried.

Recommendation #8 – The EMS Regulatory Board explore the risks and benefits of Licensure vs. Certification of Minnesota EMS Providers.

This was referred to MDSAC and the Legislative Ad-Hoc Work Group for review. This will also be discussed the next time the post transition education work group has a meeting.

7. Executive Director Report

Budget Report

Ms. Juli Vangness of the Administrative Services Unit provided agency summary budget information and a handout on the budget for the EMSRB. Mr. Guiton thanked her for her presentation.

(15-minute recess for lunch)

8. Committee Reports

Legislative Ad-Hoc Work Group – Kevin Miller

Mr. Miller provided a report of the work group activities and a handout summarizing the technical changes proposed for Minn. Stat. § 144E.275 and Minn. Stat. § 144E.50 as recommended to the Board by the work group. The work group anticipates presenting to the Board for consideration a more comprehensive legislative package in 2017.

Motion: Dr. Fink Kocken moved to accept the Legislative Ad-Hoc Work Group recommendations. Ms. Consie seconded. Motion carried.

Executive Director Report (continued)

Board Metrics

Mr. Spector provided a detail description of the board metrics handout.

Longevity Report

A handout was provided giving information on the fund status and payments made for this year.

Agency Update

Staff Update

- The Southwest EMS Specialist position is currently vacant. The goal is to evaluate the position and move forward with hiring.
- The EMSRB has a temporary staff person working 20 hours a week on various clerical projects.

Conferences Attendance

- The EMSRB staffed a booth and attended the Arrowhead EMS Conference
- Mr. Norlen attended a conference in Fergus Falls.
- The EMSRB will have a booth at the Long Hot Summer Conference and at the Southeast EMS “Heroes Among Us” Regional Conference.

Technology/E-Licensing

Mr. Spector described the challenges the agency has been experiencing regarding the e-licensing system. The current software will no longer be available after September 30, 2016. One option available to the EMSRB is for MN.IT to build a new e-licensing system for the agency. Another option is seeking a system from a third-party vendor through the RFP process or perhaps a single-source vendor agreement. The EMSRB also has a manual backup system in place for outages and transition.

Committee Reports (continued)Ambulance Standards Ad-Hoc Work Group

Mr. Coyne said that the work group had an introductory meeting to discuss potential new standards for Minnesota. The work group will be meeting again on February 22, 2016 at the EMSRB office. The work group has sought and received ambulance standards information from other states.

Complaint Review Panel/HPSP Program Report

Mr. Simpson said Mr. Spector provided information on complaint review panel activities.

The Health Professionals Services Program Fiscal Year 2016 Mid-Year Report was provided in the Board packet.

Data Policy Standing Advisory Committee

Ms. Hartigan reported the DPSAC is working on implementation of MNSTAR version 3.0. Staff is working closely with the vendor to implement these changes. The version is ready to collect data. Mr. Norlen can provide a demonstration if the Board would like to see it.

Medical Direction Standing Advisory Committee

Dr. Burnett said a federal bill was introduced in the House of Representatives – HR 4365 – to supplement the controlled substances act (see press release). This would streamline the process for ambulance services.

Dr. Burnett said the MDSAC will be meeting on March 4, 2016 during the Long Hot Summer Conference. Anyone who would like to participate in this meeting by conference call should contact EMS staff.

Dr. Burnett said that Dr. Pate will be presenting the Medical Directors Course at the Arrowwood Medical Director's Conference in September in Alexandria.

Mr. Guiton asked that the Board go into closed session.

9. Closed Session

The Board met in closed session to discuss personnel matters.

10. Re-Open Meeting

Mr. Guiton re-opened the meeting.

11. New Board Business

None.

12. Adjourn

Motion: Mr. Hable moved to adjourn. Dr. Pate seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 10 a.m.